

FLASHLIGHT BOMBINGS IN THE UNITED STATES
1979 - 1999

Incidents

Bombings	45
Killed	3
Injured	17

Flashlight Bomb Recoveries 32

ANALYSIS

Top Targets

Residential
Commercial
Vehicles

Top Motives

Homicide
Revenge
Vandalism

- Some are booby-trapped and function when turned on
- Some are used only as containers as they have a burning fuse and are placed or thrown at targets
- Juveniles and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs use these types of devices
- Some incidents are drug related
- Some have shrapnel attached such as nails, BB's, ball bearings, nuts and bolts
- Electric detonators, model rocket igniters, bridge wires, flashbulbs/light bulbs and hobby/cannon fuse are the most common types of ignition
- 9 volt, 6 volt and D cell batteries are the most common power sources
- Black powder, smokeless powder and photoflash powder are the most common explosives used in flashlight devices
- Four were directed towards police officers, killing one and injuring three

INITIATORS

ELECTRIC DETONATORS	31
MODEL ROCKET COMPONENTS	11
LIGHT BULBS/FLASH BULBS	13
FUSE (NON-ELECTRIC)	21
SQUIBS/ELECTRIC MATCHES	3
BRIDGE WIRES	4
SPARK PLUGS	2

TOP FIVE BATTIERS

9 VOLT	21
6 VOLT	12
D CELL	5
AA	3
MOTORCYCLE	2

EXPLOSIVES

SMOKELESS POWDER	32
HIGH EXPLOSIVES	26
BLACK POWDER	27
GRENADES	2
ANFO	2
TNT	1
PHOTOFLASH POWDER	5
CHEMICALS	3

NOTE: THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS INCREASE AS NEW INCIDENTS OCCUR OR AS INCIDENTS ARE INVESTIGATED AND DETERMINED TO BE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE BOMBINGS.